

LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Twice Amended) A [magnetic] head suspension assembly [including]
comprising:

an air bearing slider [and] having at least one transducer [disposed on said slider] mounted thereon for transducing data that is recorded and read out from a surface of a rotating magnetic [disk drive comprising:] disc;

a single [integral planar] piece [of a specified thickness] of material comprising[.]:
a load beam section formed with a narrowed end;
a flexure section having a shaped opening which defines [formed with] two [spaced narrow legs defining a cutout portion therebetween, said legs extending] flexure beams that extend in a longitudinal direction from said narrowed end of said load beam section, [and a lateral ear spaced] said flexure section further including a transverse section spaced in said longitudinal direction from said load beam section, said transverse section connecting said [legs] flexure beams;

a load point tongue extending from said narrowed end of said [narrowed] load beam section into said shaped opening such that said flexure beams and load point tongue lie substantially in the same plane, said load point tongue being disposed substantially between said [legs of said] flexure beams [section, said tongue] and having a free end within said [flexure section,] shaped opening, said load point tongue [being formed with] having a load [dimple] supporting protrusion;

said air bearing slider being bonded to said [lateral ear] transverse section and in contact with said load [dimple; whereby] supporting protrusion [load transfer is effectively separated from the gimballing action of said slider so that pitch and roll stiffness is effectively reduced].

2. (Amended) An assembly as in claim 1, wherein said [head] air bearing slider has a top non-air bearing surface attached to said [flexure section] transverse section.

3-5. (Canceled)

6. (Amended) An assembly as in claim 2, wherein said air bearing slider is about 0.0110 inch high, 0.0400 inch long and 0.0200-0.0260 inch wide.

7. (Amended) An assembly as in claim 2, wherein said top non-air bearing surface [of said slider] is formed with a platform and a step adjacent to said platform.

8. (Amended) An assembly as in claim 7, wherein said platform [of said slider] is about 0.0336 inch long and said step is about 0.0015 inch high.

9. (Amended) An assembly as in claim [2, including a load dimple formed in said tongue] 1, wherein said beam section and said transverse section have a first thickness.

10. (Amended) An assembly as in claim 9, wherein said load [dimple] supporting protrusion is hemispherical in shape [and faces down into contact with said top surface of said slider].

11. (Amended) An assembly as in claim [1, wherein said single integral planar piece including said tongue is about 0.0012 to 0.0015 inch thick and said narrow legs are about 0.0010 inch thick] 9, wherein said flexure beams have a second thickness which is thinner than said first thickness.

12. (Amended) An assembly as in claim 1, wherein said [load beam section is shaped as a truncated triangle] flexure beams are substantially parallel to said longitudinal direction so that said opening is substantially U-shaped.

13. (Amended) An assembly as in [claim 1,] claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 or 12, wherein said load beam section has a rear end opposite said narrowed end, and further including:

a leaf spring section attached at a first end to said rear end of said load beam section, said leaf spring section providing a load force to said air bearing slider through said load supporting protrusion; and

[including] a mount section attached to a second end of said [at the rear end of said load beam] leaf spring section for [enabling mounting said suspension] attachment to an actuator arm[; and

a leaf spring section between said rear mount section and said load beam section for providing flexibility to said suspension].

14. (Twice amended) An assembly as in claim 1 [13], wherein said load beam section has a rear end opposite said narrowed end and further including:
a leaf spring section attached at a first end to said rear end of said load beam section, said leaf spring section providing a load force to said air bearing slider through said load supporting protrusion;
a mount section attached to a second end of said leaf spring section for attachment to an actuator arm; and
a swage plate joined to said mount section for [providing rigidity to said rear end of said suspension assembly] attachment to said actuator arm.

15. (Amended) An assembly as in claim [13, including front flanges formed along the edges of said load beam section and rear flanges formed along the edges of said rear mount section with a hiatus between said front and rear flanges] 1, wherein said load beam section has first and second sides, at least one of said sides having a flange integral therewith.

16. (Amended) An assembly as in claim 15, wherein [said front flanges are formed with shallow U-shaped channels, and electrical wiring without tubing is positioned within said channels] said flange comprises a channel which accommodates an electrical wire.

17. (Twice Amended) An assembly as in claim 1 [13, including a cutout in] wherein said load beam section has a rear end opposite said narrowed end and further including:

a leaf spring section attached at a first end to said rear end of said load beam section, said leaf spring section providing a load force to said air bearing slider through said load supporting protrusion, wherein said leaf spring section [for providing flexibility to said suspension] includes a trapezoidal-like opening; and

a mount section attached to a second end of said leaf spring section for attachment to an actuator arm.

18. (Amended) An assembly as in claim 1, [further including an apertured extension formed at the rear end of said suspension assembly for enabling attachment to an actuator of a disk drive without a separate head arm to enable pivoting of said suspension assembly] wherein said load supporting protrusion is located along a centerline of said air bearing slider.

19. (Twice Amended) An assembly as in [claim 1] claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 or 12, further including a damping [material on] element attached to said load beam section.

20. (Amended) An assembly as in claim [1] 15, further including at least one load/unload tab formed [at the sides of said] on at least one of said sides of said load beam section.

21. (Original) An assembly as in claim 2, wherein said top non-air bearing surface is substantially flat.

22. (Amended) An assembly as in claim 21, wherein said [lateral ear] transverse section includes bent sections for [contacting with said top surface of said slider] attachment to said air bearing slider.

23. (New) An assembly as in claim 1 wherein said load point protrusion is offset a distance from a centerline extending between said flexure beams.

24. (New) An assembly as in claim 23 wherein said distance is greater than zero inches, but less than or equal to 0.006 inches.

25-35. (Canceled)